



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

BOBBY JINDAL  
GOVERNOR

HAROLD LEGGETT, Ph.D.  
SECRETARY

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**Contact:** Tim Beckstrom  
**Phone:** 225-219-3967

### **Truck driver pleads guilty in illegal dumping case on I-12**

BATON ROUGE – A truck driver for Bisteneau Trucking pled guilty Monday to illegally dumping material near a Denham Springs exit along Interstate 12 in April, 2007.

Jeffery F. Brown, 31, of Minden, was arrested in December after a surveillance video identified him as the driver responsible for illegally dumping approximately 500 pounds of urea granules near an I-12 exit ramp in Denham Springs. Urea is a water-soluble, organic compound commonly used as a fertilizer.

In conjunction with his guilty plea, Brown was fined \$1,800 and must serve two years of probation.

“The DEQ Criminal Investigation Division is committed reducing illegal dumping in our state,” DEQ Secretary Harold Leggett said. “Illegal dumping is an eyesore to Louisiana. Unfortunately, some people only understand this after the long arm of the law finally catches up with them. CID is designed to create a level playing field for all the honest businesses that follow the law, take proper care of their waste and promote a clean and healthy environment for our citizens.”

Under Louisiana law, anyone who willfully or knowingly discharges or disposes a substance that is not hazardous to human life or health, but in violation of state law, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined up to \$25,000 per violation (including costs of prosecution) and imprisonment of up to one year in jail, or both.